

DAILY OVERVIEW OF GLOBAL MARKETS & THE SEE REGION

December 30, 2013

KEY UPCOMING DATA & EVENTS THIS WEEK

GLOBAL

US

- Dec. 30: pending home sales (Nov)
- Dec. 31: Consumer conf index (Dec)
- Jan.2
 - Initial jobless claims (Dec. 28)
 - ISM manuf (Dec)

SEE

SERBIA

- Dec. 30
 - IP (Nov)
 - Trade Balance (Nov)
 - Retail sales (Nov)
 - GDP (Q3, f)

BULGARIA

- Dec. 30
 - PPI (Nov)
 - Budget balance (Nov)
- Jan. 2: Reserve assets (Dec)

Source: Reuters, Bloomberg,
Eurobank Global Markets Research

HIGHLIGHTS

WORLD ECONOMIC & MARKET DEVELOPMENTS

GLOBAL MARKETS: Major stock markets around the globe remained on a firm footing on Monday with several indices standing close to recent multi-year/record highs.

SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

SERBIA: An IMF mission is expected to arrive in Belgrade mid-February, in order to negotiate a new precautionary arrangement.

ROMANIA: RON markets were relatively quiet on Friday with trade volumes remaining at low levels in view of the holidays.

CESEE Markets: CESEE stock markets moved broadly higher on Friday, regional currencies broadly weakened on position squaring ahead of year-end.

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Latest world economic & market developments

GLOBAL MARKETS

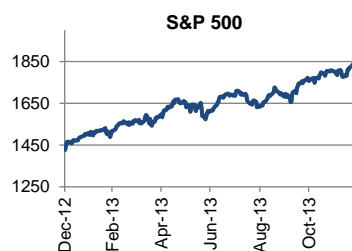
Major stock markets around the globe remained on a firm footing on Monday with several indices standing close to recent multi-year/record highs. However, trade volumes remained thin in view of the holiday season. Indicatively, the S&P 500 and the Dow Jones Industrial Average hit new record peaks late last week, while the Stoxx Europe 600 index reached its highest level since mid-2008 earlier today. In the FX markets, the EUR remained supported ahead of year-end and following ECB President Mario Draghi's comments to German magazine Spiegel on Saturday reportedly suggesting that there is no urgency in further reducing the Central Bank's main interest rate. Along these lines the EUR/USD hovered around levels of 1.3765 earlier today, remaining within distance from a near 2-year peak of 1.3893 hit on Friday.

Latest developments in the CESEE region

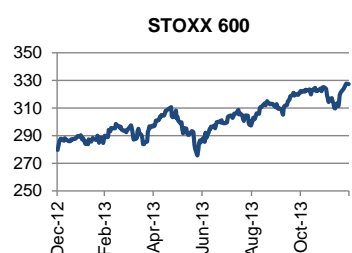
CESEE markets

CESEE stock markets moved broadly higher on Friday. Notably, many bourses in the region were closed for Christmas holidays late last week, while trade volumes remained thin ahead of year end. Ukraine's PFTS led the winners' pack, bouncing by 0.85% and overshadowing a 0.44% rise in the MSCI benchmark index of emerging equities which was primarily led by gains in Chinese stocks. On the flipside, Turkey's BIST 100 was the major underperformer in the region, plummeting by 1.04% in the prior session and posting weekly losses to the tune of 8.18% to mark its worst weekly performance in years. Additionally, the index hit a 1½-year low near 61,150 points intraday on Friday, ending the session with year-to-date losses of ca 16%. Domestic bourses in Turkey have been rattled over the last two weeks against a background of escalating domestic political jitters, following a wide-range corruption probe on prominent businessmen, local government officials and ministers' sons. This development in turn led to the resignation of three Ministers as well as to the removal of several police and judicial officials from their posts, while anti-government rallies were staged over the last few days. The news comes around three months ahead of local elections in Turkey, seen as a key test for the ruling AKP's popularity. In the **FX markets**, regional currencies broadly weakened on Friday on position squaring ahead of year-end. The Turkish lira led the losses in the region, plummeting to a new record low of 2.1764/USD, primarily driven lower by escalating domestic political tensions. The currency has lost ca 18% against the USD so far this year in view of rising political jitters, relatively low interest rates and the Fed's decision to start tapering its QE programme. With regards to the latter, the country is considered heavily reliant on foreign capital inflows in order to finance its elevated current account deficit (anticipated at 7.2%-of-GDP this year according to the market's median forecast), and the FOMC's decision to start trimming its asset purchases may reduce such inflows to Turkey. In order to support the lira, the Central Bank announced in a statement on Friday that it would increase the amount offered in its foreign currency sales, having sold USD 450mn on a daily basis for four consecutive days last week. It also plans to sell a min of USD 600mn today and tomorrow. In the **local rates markets** Turkish government bonds remained the primary underperformer amid persisting domestic political uncertainty. The 2-year yields rose by 44bps to a near 2-year peak of 10.17%, while the corresponding 10-year yield closed at a 4-month peak of 10.61%.

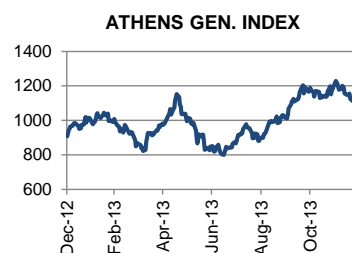
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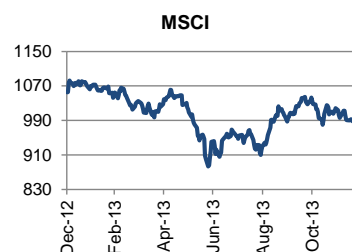
Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Global Markets Research



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Credit Ratings			
L-T ccy	Moody's	S&P	Fitch
SERBIA	B1	BB-	BB-
ROMANIA	Baa3	BB+	BBB-
BULGARIA	Baa2	BBB	BBB-
CYPRUS	Caa3	B-	B-

Source: Reuters, Bloomberg, Eurobank Global Markets Research

SERBIA: Indicators	2012	2013f	2014f
Real GDP growth %	-1.7	2.0	1.0
CPI (pa, yoy %)	7.3	8.4	5.5
Budget Balance/GDP	-6.4	-5.6	-5.5
Current Account/GDP	-10.5	-4.1	-3.2
EUR/RSD (eop)	112.30	115.00	116.00
	current	2013f	2014f
Policy Rate (eop)	10.00	9.50	9.50

Source: EC Economic Forecasts, Reuters, Bloomberg,
Eurobank Global Markets Research, local authorities

SERBIA

(Belgrade, 27/12/13, 16:00 CET): **Latest Political & Macro Developments:** According to the Minister of Finance, an IMF mission is expected to arrive in Belgrade mid-February, in order to negotiate a new precautionary arrangement. Although Serbia's FX reserves are currently sufficient and no additional IMF funds are needed, a successful arrangement with the IMF would likely improve Serbia's macroeconomic prospects ahead and investors' sentiment towards the country. **Market Developments:** The EUR/RSD hovered around levels of 114.45/65 on Friday. Notably, Serbia's Central Bank (NBS) intervened in the FX markets, once again, on Friday buying EUR50mn in order to halt any further weakening of the euro. NBS was not particularly aggressive in last week's interventions, buying EUR 10-20mn per day. In detail, they intervened every day purchasing EUR 10mn, except for Monday and Friday, when they bought EUR 20mn and EUR 50mn, respectively. Separately, the main stock market index BELEX15 gained 0.47% during the last trading session of the week.

nanuk.madjer@eurobank.rs

zeljko.devic@eurobank.rs

Zoran.Korac@eurobank.rs

ROMANIA: Indicators	2012	2013f	2014f
Real GDP growth %	0.7	2.2	2.2
CPI (pa, yoy %)	5.0	1.8	3.0
Budget Balance/GDP	-3.0	-2.5	-2.2
Current Account/GDP	-4.0	-1.2	-1.5
EUR/RON (eop)	4.44	4.43	4.45
	current	2013f	2014f
Policy Rate (eop)	4.00	4.00	4.00

Source: EC Economic Forecasts, Reuters, Bloomberg,
Eurobank Global Markets Research, local authorities

ROMANIA

(Bucharest, 30/12/13, 10.00 EET): **Latest Political & Macro Developments** There were no major macroeconomic developments late last week in view of the holiday period. **Market Developments:** RON markets were relatively quiet on Friday with trade volumes remaining at low levels due to the Christmas holidays.

bogdan.radulescu@bancpost.ro

Contributors to this issue

Zeljko Devcic

Head of Trading, Eurobank ad Beograd
+381 11 206 5822

zeljko.devcic@eurobank.rs

Zoran Korac

FX dealer, Eurobank ad Beograd
+381 11 206 5821

zoran.korac@eurobank.rs

Nanuk Madjer

Research, Eurobank ad Beograd
+381 11 3027535

nanuk.madjer@eurobank.rs

Galatia Phoka

Emerging Markets Analyst, Eurobank Ergasias
+30 210 3718922

galatia.phoka@eurobank.gr

Bogdan Radulescu, CFA

Senior Trader, Bancpost
+40 21 3656291

bogdan.radulescu@bancpost.ro

Eurobank Global Markets Research

Global Markets Research Team

Dr. Platon Monokroussos: Head of Global Markets Research
pmonokrousos@eurobank.gr, + 30 210 37 18 903

Paraskevi Petropoulou: G10 Markets Analyst
ppetropoulou@eurobank.gr, + 30 210 37 18 991

Galatia Phoka: Emerging Markets Analyst
gphoka@eurobank.gr, + 30 210 37 18 922

Global Markets Sales

Nikos Laios: Head of Treasury Sales
nlaios@eurobank.gr, + 30 210 37 18 910

Alexandra Papathanasiou: Head of Institutional Sales
apapathanasiou@eurobank.gr, +30 210 37 18 996

John Seimenis: Head of Corporate Sales
yseimenis@eurobank.gr, +30 210 37 18 909

Achilleas Stogioglou: Head of Private Banking Sales
astogioglou@eurobank.gr, +30 210 37 18 904

George Petrogiannis: Head of Shipping Sales
gpetrogiannis@eurobank.gr, +30 210 37 18 915

Vassilis Gioulbaxiotis: Head International Sales
vgioulbaxiotis@eurobank.gr, +30 210 37 18 995

Eurobank Ergasias S.A, 8 Othonos Str, 105 57 Athens, tel: +30 210 33 37 000, fax: +30 210 33 37 190, email: EurobankGlobalMarketsResearch@eurobank.gr

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